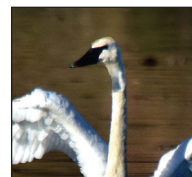




Annual Art & Craft Fair, p.3



Trumpeter Swan Visits, p.12

## Greenbelt Library Is Moving Ahead with Virtual Services

by Matthew Arbach

*Este artículo está disponible en español en nuestra página web [www.greenbeltnewsreview.com](http://www.greenbeltnewsreview.com).*

The Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS), faced with a pandemic shutdown, has responded with an array of innovative offerings, including virtual programming and curbside service. Far from being limiting, these virtual choices have instead increased community outreach in a dramatic way, with many potentially continuing when the libraries are able to fully reopen. On Monday, November 2, PGCMLS North Area Manager Luis Labra shared these prospects with the Greenbelt City Council at a worksession. Said Labra, while he wished that it didn't take a pandemic to learn these new lessons, "We've taken full advantage of the opportunity."

In the past, while in-person children's programs might expect 35 to 40 attendees, the virtual ones now host 300 to 400, with pre-recorded programs receiving thousands of watchers.

The Greenbelt Library is an "extremely busy site," said Labra, standing third in circulation and first in curbside service, with residents, he noted, being "very satisfied with the service." This was reemphasized by Councilmember Emmett Jordan, who said that Greenbelters "love our Library," and that it is "really important to the community." Recently, the Library building reached its 50th anniversary, which the city would like to celebrate at a later reopening.

Full staff have returned to the branches, working on an alternate schedule due to social distancing, See **LIBRARY**, page 9

## How the Lake Trail Was Built: Ingenuity, Donations, No Budget

by James Giese

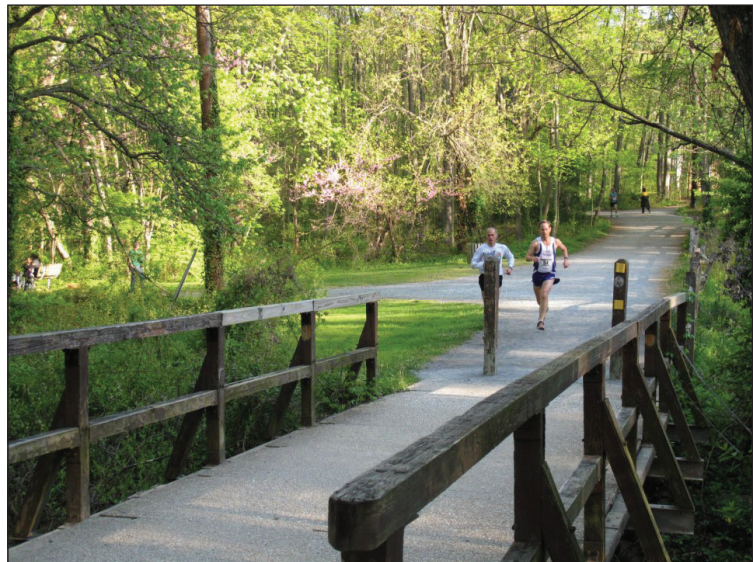


PHOTO COURTESY GNR ARCHIVE

The Lake bridge, passing by the peninsula, crosses over the stream from Braden Field.

The wonderful photo of the Greenbelt Lake trail in autumn glory by Melanie Gaschick in the November 5 issue got me to thinking how lucky it was that the trail got built in 1963 and the debt of gratitude Greenbelters owe to those who got it done, particularly Public Works Director Albert "Buddy" Attick and then-mayor Francis White. The city built the trail, as well as the lake peninsula, without budgeted funds due to Buddy's resourcefulness and White's urgings and cooperation.

At that time, Lakeside had only recently been developed by a cooperative of residents. The co-op built the street and installed utilities. Each lot owner was responsible for the design and construction of the home built on it. While many homes

already had been built, there were still vacant lots. Also, construction had just begun on the Bresler-Reiner development – the Lakecrest subdivision, an extension of Lakeside Drive with homes on Maplewood, Olive-wood and Pinecrest Courts.

Most residents then lived in Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI). Established residents were concerned that the new Lakesiders would take over the shoreline of Greenbelt Lake, which was a part of the park dedication. They were also concerned that they would lose their ability to walk around the lake, even though along the side with new homes there was only a footpath.

The new residents with lake-view properties were not keen on having a public path behind their

See **TRAIL**, page 8



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE WILKIN

Jaden Dirksen works on sidewalk art on Halloween. See story, page 6.

## Greenbelt Volunteers Keep Food Pantries Stocked, Staffed

by Kaitlyn Levinson

The ongoing pandemic and the upcoming holiday season are a busy time for everyone, and Greenbelt churches are no exception. Multiple churches are involved with food pantries for families in need and have experienced a boom in donations and volunteers over the summer and in recent weeks.

"We've really depended on a strong and mighty force of people," said Mary Ann Tretler, a parish leader of the St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church. In her parish, the Ladies of Charity organization takes care of collecting and distributing non-perishable food items for the pantry.

The Covid-19 crisis has increased the number of pantry families by 50 percent, Tretler said. "Since the pandemic started, we basically have been getting a hundred bags and more a week from the Co-op donation program."

The church and Co-op first came together during the holiday season three years ago to set aside bags of non-perishable foods that customers could purchase so that they would be sent to families in need. The over-

whelmingly positive response from the community inspired the two organizations to keep it going.

This week, because of Thanksgiving, the Ladies of Charity has

collected over 160 bags, Tretler said. St. Hugh plans to host a socially distanced Thanksgiving event Saturday, November 21 where families can pick up

See **FOOD**, page 4

## Theatre Fulfills Its Mission During the Long Pandemic

by Eva Sanchez

The Old Greenbelt Theatre (OGT) has been closed since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic. A staple in Greenbelt, the theater is attempting to function as much as it can, but has suffered by being forced to close.

OGT is Prince George's Coun-

ty's only nonprofit cinema. The theater was built in 1938 as part of the federally planned New Deal community that is Greenbelt. Most of the stores in the original center were part of a cooperative, as was the theater.

See **THEATRE**, page 9



PHOTO BY GEOFFREY WALTERS

The Old Greenbelt Theatre, as seen in 2017 with Christmas lights

### What Goes On

**Thursday, November 19**  
1 to 3 p.m. Free Produce Distribution, Community Center  
**Monday, November 23**  
8 p.m. Council Meeting  
**Wednesday, November 25**  
8 p.m. Council Worksession (tentative)  
All council meetings are virtual. See the meetings calendar at [greenbeltmd.gov](http://greenbeltmd.gov) for agendas and information on public participation in these meetings.



# Letters to the Editor

## Housing Ordinances

As noted in the News Review [November 12 issue, page 1], Mayor Colin Byrd has introduced a trio of ordinances focused on keeping all of Greenbelt housed and financially stable as we all weather the pandemic and economic downturn.

Together the ordinances would prohibit evictions until December 31, 2021, for all landlords as well as barring rent increases and late fees for those landlords with 10 or more tenants.

These kinds of protections should be what we expect from our city . . . sending the clear message that we make it through tough times together. But other than Councilmember Rodney Roberts, the members of council have not welcomed the mayor's push for action before December rent is due.

There has been talk from council about how the mayor's ordinances might be unnecessary given prior action by state and federal government. But the federal and state eviction restrictions are chock full of loopholes, confusing paperwork and they could expire early next year.

There has been talk from council about how small landlords need to pay their mortgages. But the city could easily set up its own program to help small landlords with small expenses ... without denying protections to their tenants.

This kind of talk will not excuse inaction. The Maryland District Court is hearing eviction cases and landlords. Ask the lawyers at Community Legal Services who fight for people facing eviction and they'll tell you that local ordinances can in fact save their clients. Moreover, the clear signal from the city now could deter landlords from threatening tenants with eviction in the first place.

Now, it is tempting for any one of us to think that we just need to focus on making it through to some post-pandemic normal on our own. It is tempting to imagine that we don't have time to worry about folks who can't keep up with their rent.

But the truth is our city's future prosperity depends on the housing stability of all Greenbelt families. And in a pandemic, the health of our own families is jeopardized when we permit landlords to put someone out of their home.

All three ordinances are back before council at its Monday, November 23, 8 p.m. meeting. At a time when any family's health or employment could face an unexpected hit, all of Greenbelt, and particularly our elected representatives on council, ought to unite behind the strongest possible tenant protections.

Larry McNeely

## Democratic Club to Help Senate Candidates in Georgia, Jan. 5

by Konrad Herling

The Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club members, whose monthly meeting occurs Sunday, November 22 at 3 p.m. on Zoom, were very active on a non-partisan basis in providing information about the election and registering area residents. On a partisan basis, members campaigned for the Biden/Harris campaign team via hundreds of phone calls to residents of Pennsylvania, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

Now, for the next six weeks, the focus is on the two U.S. Senate races in Georgia. Jon Ossoff is taking on incumbent Republican Senator David Perdue and Rev. Raphael Warnock is taking on incumbent Republican Senator Kelly Loeffler. If the Democratic candidates win those two races, which would be quite an accomplishment, then the Senate will have a 50-50 split with Kamala Harris, as Vice President, breaking the tie. To learn how to help with that effort, come to the club's membership meeting this Sunday.

Additionally, the club's election of officers will also occur at the meeting.

If you would like to help us with our efforts to get the word out to the community, including schools and local colleges, or have any questions, call Konrad Herling, club president, at 301-345-9369.

## Se Habla Español

Vaya a nuestra página web [greenbeltnewsreview.com](http://greenbeltnewsreview.com) para ver artículos en español.



See our website, [greenbeltnewsreview.com](http://greenbeltnewsreview.com), for articles in Spanish.

## GNR Thanksgiving Ads/Copy Deadline

Thanksgiving holiday schedules for our printer mean the News Review must submit the camera-ready copy to them a day early.

As a result, all published deadlines for copy, photos and ads are ONE DAY earlier than they usually are. The times remain the same.

Out of consideration for our staff, it is preferable that materials come in even earlier than that whenever possible. All efforts will be much appreciated.

The newspaper may be delivered to doorsteps either Thursday or Friday, depending on carrier schedules and printer delivery times.



## Drop Us a Line!

Electronically, that is. [editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com)

## The Greenbelt News Review Seeks Advertising Staff

### Duties:

- Record incoming display or classified ads
- Advise advertisers on ad sizing and composition
- Size and price ads
- Prepare ads for publication
- Check proofs

### Qualifications Desired:

- Working knowledge of Excel, Word & File Explorer
- Ability to organize information and follow processes
- Ability to interact effectively by phone and email
- Attention to detail

We work in the Community Center at one or more of three weekly times. Monday and Tuesday, 2 to 4 p.m. and Tuesday, 6 to 8 p.m. We take safety to heart and our large office hosts only four staff simultaneously

**Compensation:** GNR is a worker cooperative. Members receive dividends based on the newspaper's financial performance. Dividends are token payments only.

To apply: email [ads@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:ads@greenbeltnewsreview.com) with a brief description of your qualifications and experience.



## Letters Policy

The News Review reserves the right not to publish any letter submitted. Letters are considered accepted when published.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider withholding the name upon request.

All letters are subject to editing for reasons of space, libel, privacy, taste, copyright and clarity.



# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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### PUBLICATION DEADLINES:

- Monday 2 p.m. All Letters to the Editor (300 word limit), Articles/photos over 700 words, Display Ads (not camera ready).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified Ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 8 p.m.  
Office is currently closed to the public. Please phone or email.  
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the municipal building.





# Community Events

## At the Library

Curbside service hours are now Tuesday to Friday from 1 to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 1 to 5 p.m. at branch libraries. By appointment only, place requests for up to 50 items in advance.

All Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGC-MLS) branches will close at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 25, for the Thanksgiving Day Holiday. All branches will remain closed on Thursday, November 26. The Greenbelt Library will resume curbside service on Friday, November 27, at 1 p.m.

Celebrate Native American Heritage Month 2020 this November by visiting the Library's Native American and Indigenous Peoples Heritage Hub to learn about their culture, traditions, contributions and history. Prince George's County is situated on the traditional lands of the Mattapanient, Patuxent, Piscataway, Moyaone and Pamunkey tribes.

Featured virtual events for Native American and Indigenous Peoples Heritage Month are streamed at [pgcmls.info/events](http://pgcmls.info/events). The next event is Friday, November 20 at 3 p.m.: Crafternoon: Native American Dreamcatchers (all ages). The county library system offers free access to ABC-CLIO's The American Indian Experience, an online encyclopedia with information on Native American cultures and history including primary sources.

### Read Woke Challenge

The Library is participating in the Read Woke Challenge, a national initiative to encourage reading, personal growth and racial and social equity. Readers of all ages are encouraged to read or listen to at least five books by December 15 that explore diversity, inclusion, equity, anti-racism and the many perspectives of the human experience. Readers can register on Beanstack to participate. All who log five titles through December 15 will be entered to win a \$50 Amazon gift card raffle.

### Book Returns

External book drops are available for collecting customer returns. Per the latest CDC guidelines, all returned materials need to be in quarantine for three days before being checked in and processed. Accounts should clear of most returned items after five days, which may result in items temporarily displaying as overdue. Although PGCMLS adopted a fine-free policy effective July 1, the cost of items that remain overdue for more than 30 days may be charged to a customer's account as lost items until the items are returned. The library appreciates the timely return of all items since this helps maintain the availability of the collection for all customers, especially in light of the increased processing time.

## Toastmasters Meet Online Wednesdays

The Greenbelt Toastmasters Club has gone virtual. Those interested in improving communication or leadership skills are invited to join online or by phone every first, third and fifth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Find details for joining remotely at [greenbelt.toastmastersclubs.org](http://greenbelt.toastmastersclubs.org).

## Connect Virtually Across Greenbelt

Connecting Across Greenbelt is a group of residents who gather virtually to build relationships across neighborhoods and to understand current challenges for all Greenbelters. To research ways to cope in these difficult times, the group is building a Caring and Connecting Toolkit in association with leading mental health and community health leaders. The group invites all members of the community and their families to access clinically proven breath techniques at [youtube.com/watch?v=RVA2N6tX2cg](https://youtube.com/watch?v=RVA2N6tX2cg) and [youtube.com/watch?v=mZbzDOpylA](https://youtube.com/watch?v=mZbzDOpylA).

To find out about the group's monthly meetings (November's topic: Mental Health), Connecting Across Greenbelt: Community Conversations, email [communityconnections@gb@gmail.com](mailto:communityconnections@gb@gmail.com).

## Wrapping Paper Workshop

A free Artful Afternoon at-home workshop will launch online on Sunday, December 6. Artist-in-Residence Racquel Keller will show participants of all ages how to use ordinary materials and objects to create beautiful, printed wrapping paper for any occasion. Participants can sign up online through November 22 to receive a free materials kit while supplies last; visit [greenbeltnmd.gov/recreation](http://greenbeltnmd.gov/recreation). After November 22, participants can still sign up to receive a materials list and a link to the instructional video. This program is sponsored by the Greenbelt Recreation ARTS program as part of the city's Festival of Lights celebration.

## Free Student Meals Pickup Changes

This week, there will be an additional meal distribution day on Friday, November 20. Meals for Thanksgiving week will be included in the Friday distribution. There will be no meal distribution the week of November 23 due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

Meal pickup and delivery is free for all Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) students through Thursday, December 31. All schools in Greenbelt serve as meal distribution sites.

Multi-day meals are available for pickup Mondays and Wednesdays between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Visit the PGCPS website, [pgcps.org](http://pgcps.org), for more information and a list of delivery locations.

## Candlelight Vigil

A weekly candlelight vigil is held on the second and fourth Saturday of every month from 7 to 8 p.m. at the intersection of Breezewood Drive and Cherrywood Lane, near the Shell station. The purpose of these vigils is to provide community members an opportunity to gather with candles and signs and to engage in dialogue to better understand one another and to understand issues of policing as well as sources of racism. All are welcome to join and candles are optional.

## Bird Embroidery Rec Workshop

Greenbelt Recreation instructor Leah Cohen will be leading new embroidery workshops on Zoom for ages 12 and up. On December 3 and 10, use scrappy wool to create mittens with an embroidered floral motif. On December 7, create a ring-necked pheasant ornament; participate individually, or as a family. Patterns and materials are provided. Advance registration is required and fees apply. For more information, write to [alarsen@greenbeltnmd.gov](mailto:alarsen@greenbeltnmd.gov).



PHOTO BY LEAH COHEN

Ring-necked pheasant ornament by Leah Cohen

## Art Share

On Friday, November 20, from 7 to 8 p.m., artists working in all media are invited to attend an online Art Share. Bring one to three pieces to show and discuss. All experience levels are welcome. To receive a Zoom link, write to [alarsen@greenbeltnmd.gov](mailto:alarsen@greenbeltnmd.gov). This program is sponsored by the Greenbelt Recreation ARTS program as part of an ongoing monthly series.

## GAVA Yard Sale

There will be a yard sale hosted by Tom Baker on Sunday November 22, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Frames, matte boards, stretchers, clay tools and other various art supplies are for sale along with a few original objets d'art (pay what you want). All proceeds will be donated to Greenbelt Association for Visual Arts. Come by to see what buried treasures await! Location: 1C Northway, back yard and by the street.

## Support BLM Legislation

The public is invited to participate in demonstrations held every day at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. The purpose of the demonstrations is to make people aware of local legislation relevant to Black Lives Matter issues.

For example, the group of demonstrators encourages passersby to express support for Anton's Law, a bill before the Maryland House that would establish a statewide standard for law enforcement and use of force, as well as setting standards for transparency in policing.

The demonstrations take place Monday through Saturday from 5 to 6 p.m. and on Sundays from 10 to 11 a.m.

## Virtual Recreation

Greenbelt Recreation's winter classes and special events are online via the Virtual Recreation Center. Go to [greenbeltnmd.gov/recreation](http://greenbeltnmd.gov/recreation) to access a wide range of online activities, including classes, video tutorials, sing-alongs and more. Art activities can be accessed in the Visual Arts section of the Virtual Recreation Center.

# Festival of Lights Art and Craft Fair

Like most events during Covid-19, the 2020 Festival of Lights Juried Art and Craft Fair will be held online. This event will run from Friday, November 27 to Sunday, December 20. Guests can shop safely online, viewing and purchasing items from 54 regional fine artists, artisans and authors. Shoppers can also purchase tickets for online events through the Greenbelt Arts Center and merchandise supporting the Greenbelt Museum and Greenbelt Nursery School. To access the Fair, visit the Greenbelt Virtual Recreation Center at [greenbeltnmd.gov/recreation](http://greenbeltnmd.gov/recreation) starting the first day of the event, November 27.





PHOTO BY JILL WARZER

Adiante Franszoon is a master woodcarver who learned his craft in the South American nation of Suriname where he was born. His wares include wooden jewelry and cutting boards as well as furniture.

Digital artist Leda Black's design business is named the Female Power Project. Her designs are available as prints and on garments, magnets and other items.



PHOTO BY LEDA BLACK

| GATe GREENBELT ACCESS TELEVISION  |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Friday November 20 - Thursday November 26   |  |  |
| PROGRAM SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE  |  | CONNECT WITH GATe ON   |
| 7 am  | Greenbelt Newsreel                         | • or Selections From the GATe Archive  |
| 8 am  | Democracy Now!                             | • Repeat of Yesterday's Program  |
| 9 am  | Classic Movies ★<br>Adventure/Drama • 1951 | • Lassie: The Painted Hills • Paul Kelly<br>• Hosted by Ron MacCloskey   |
| 11 am   | Greenbelt Newsreel                         | • or Selections From the GATe Archive  |
| SAT/SUN   | Member Spotlight                           | • GATe Community Producers   |
| 12 pm   | Democracy Now!                             | • Today's Program • Independent News   |
| 1 pm  | Science Bowl PGCPS                         | • Cherokee Lane v Laurel • Hillcrest Heights v Magnolia  |
| 2 pm  | Greenbelt Newsreel                         | • or Selections From the GATe Archive  |
| 3 pm  | Classic Movies ★<br>Adventure/Drama • 1951 | • Lassie: The Painted Hills • Paul Kelly<br>• Hosted by Ron MacCloskey   |
| 5 pm  | Science Bowl PGCPS                         | • Cherokee Lane v Laurel • Hillcrest Heights v Magnolia  |
| SAT/SUN   | Member Spotlight                           | • GATe Community Producers   |
| 6 pm  | Greenbelt Newsreel                         | • or Selections From the GATe Archive  |
| 7 pm  | Democracy Now!                             | • Today's Program • Independent News   |
| 8 pm  | Classic Movies ★<br>Adventure/Drama • 1951 | • Lassie: The Painted Hills • Paul Kelly<br>• Hosted by Ron MacCloskey   |
| 10 pm   | Democracy Now!                             | • Today's Program • Independent News   |
| 11 pm   | Greenbelt Newsreel                         | • or Selections From the GATe Archive  |
| 12 am   | Greenbelt Newsreel                         | • or Selections From the GATe Archive  |
| WATCH US on VERIZON Fios 19 or COMCAST 77<br>STREAMING LIVE at <a href="http://www.greenbeltaccessstv.org/channel-live-stream">www.greenbeltaccessstv.org/channel-live-stream</a> |  |  |



# Obituaries

## Shawntae Nixon



Shawntae Nixon

Shawntae D. Nixon, 26, died Sunday, November 1, 2020, at Cadia Health Care in Hyattsville. She was born on Valentine’s Day, February 14, 1994, to LaShawn D. Nixon and Darrell Gilmore. Shawntae spent the first three years of her life at the Hospital for Sick Children in N.E. Washington, D.C. In 1997 she came to live in Greenbelt with her grandmother, Patricia Waldron, who had lived in the city since

PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

1982. Shawntae’s mother graduated from Eleanor Roosevelt High School. Shawntae attended Margaret Brent School in New Carrollton where she graduated in 2015 with a high school certificate. She had many happy days during her school years. Shawntae enjoyed traveling with her grandmother, especially to family gatherings. She also liked riding the school bus, listening to music and having someone talk and read to her. Due to illness, in 2017 she moved to Cadia Health Care. A visitation and viewing were held for her family, including her grandmother, her seven siblings, her father and a few nurses on Sunday, November 8, at Fort Lincoln Funeral Home in Brentwood. The family plans to have a memorial service for Shawntae and her mother when the virus recedes and it is safer to gather and celebrate, perhaps in 2021.

## Sustainable Holidays

Join the Green Teams on Sunday, November 22 at 7 p.m. to discuss Safe, Simple and Sustainable Holidays and Celebrations. Because of the uncertain and isolated times, many people won’t be together with friends and family. The Green Teams will talk about simplifying the holidays and how to help protect and care for each other. Leaders, including the Community Church’s interim pastor, Reverend Curtiss DeMars-Johnson, will begin the discussion. This is the fourth environmental Zoom presentation sponsored by the Green Teams of Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ and the City of Greenbelt. RSVP to Jane Young at [gccjane@aol.com](mailto:gccjane@aol.com) for Zoom information. To avoid problems, give the username as it will appear in Zoom or the phone number that will be used for calling in.

### Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present. You write it or we will if you prefer. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.

Worship with us at

## Greenbelt Baptist Church

Biblical  
Confessional  
Reformed  
Gospel Centered

Join us OUTSIDE Sundays at 10:00am/Wednesdays (online) at 7:00pm  
[www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org)  
Instagram/Facebook/Youtube

<<101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt MD>>  
[www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org)  
301-474-4212  
@GreenbeltBaptist

## Annual Thanksgiving Celebration by Zoom

The Greenbelt Interfaith Leadership Association is holding its annual Thanksgiving Celebration via Zoom on Wednesday, November 25 at 7:30 p.m. (Zoom ID: 873 4884 7808, passcode: 076628). All are welcome. A freewill offering will benefit the Greenbelt Emergency Assistance Fund (see October 15 News Review article, Greenbelters Can Help CARES Assist Local Families in Need).



The Bible Says...

### The Ten Commandments

#7-You Shall Not Commit Adultery  
Exodus 20:14

**Sunday Worship Services**  
10a-11a ONLINE  
[MCFcc.org/online](http://MCFcc.org/online)

Greenbelt Community Church

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
a just world for all

Whoever you are and wherever you are on your Spiritual journey, you are welcome HERE.

Join Us on Facebook Live  
Sunday at 10:15  
**Love’s Many Paths**  
Matthew 25:31-46

1 Hillside Road 301-474-6171 Rev. Curt DeMars-Johnson

### ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

RETURN TO PUBLIC CELEBRATION

With joy, we return to the public celebration of Mass. Attendance is limited to 100 persons per Mass, all (3 and up) must wear masks. All details available on our website. Mon-Fri 7:15am, Sat 9am; Sat vigil 5pm; Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am  
Confessions Saturday 3pm - 4pm

135 Crescent Rd.  
[www.sthughofgrenoble.org](http://www.sthughofgrenoble.org)

## FOOD continued from page 1

turkeys, vegetables and various side dishes. For Christmas, Tretler said St. Hugh will decorate their Angel Tree with paper ornaments that parishioners can take and then donate Target gift cards or monetary contributions to purchase gift cards to be given to food pantry families. “I am hopeful we’ll continue to get the support we need to help the families that need us,” Tretler said. The pantry has also distributed over \$3,000 in Co-op gift cards from donations received for masks made available at the Police Station and the Farmers Market.

The MCF Community Church also plans to host a Thanksgiving event Saturday. Pastor Jeff Warner said the church has received a grant in response to Covid-19 that will be used to provide over 250 local families with food items for a Thanksgiving meal. Warner praised the members of his church and Greenbelt for their “genuine heart to serve.” The pandemic has lessened what stores can donate due to economic strain from the Covid-19 pandemic, but he is confident in his volunteers to keep up their work collecting, bagging and distributing food items, Warner said. When the coronavirus surged again over the summer, Warner along with Michael and Leah Moon, owners of DC Vegan Catering, started the Feed Greenbelt initiative.

This project partnered together the MCF Community Church and DC Vegan. Warner remarked that “the city came together in a way we’ve never seen before.” Over 1,000 meals were served to the community and Greenbelt raised nearly \$10,000 for the program as a result of “people erasing lines and coming together for a common cause of helping the community,” Warner said.

The Help-By-Phone charity also experienced a surge in volunteer help and community aid because of the pandemic and for the approaching holiday season. The Greenbelt Community Church has always been an “enormous supporter,” said Marsha Voigt, president of the board of directors. Help-By-Phone relies on private donations and contributions from local businesses and organizations to provide for pantry families. Grant money is also a large contributor to Help-By-Phone’s success by providing money for the organization to purchase food for its pantry.

Voigt said the pantry stayed steady in terms of donation amounts once the pandemic hit the city. Help-By-Phone enforced social distancing and required anyone working in the pantries or picking up food bags to wear masks. Of Covid-19’s effects since it started, Voigt said, “There are a number of smaller food drives that just did not happen in 2020.” She hopes that some will be able to resume, such as the Empty Bowls project (a biennial October event at the Greenbelt Community Church) where attendees are served soup in take-home bowls made by the Greenbelt pottery club. Help-By-Phone sponsors the Safehaven initiative which shelters homeless men over Christmas

week at the Greenbelt Community Church and the Greenbelt Baptist Church, but this will not occur in 2020 due to limited space in the church. Of the organization’s plans for the near future, Voigt said, “I can’t really see any change. We’ll keep seeing people.” As is the case for the Maryland Christian Fellowship and St. Hugh of Grenoble, Voigt can count on parish members and Greenbelters to continue to give and donate: “Churches shut down Sunday services, but kept the pantries open.” For more information about each church, visit [mcfcc.org/](http://mcfcc.org/), [berwynpresbyterian.net](http://berwynpresbyterian.net) or [sthughofgrenoble.org](http://sthughofgrenoble.org).



**CATHOLIC COMMUNITY of GREENBELT**

During the pandemic, we gather VIRTUALLY for Liturgy of the Word Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

For ZOOM link:  
[FDeBernardo@aol.com](mailto:FDeBernardo@aol.com)

### Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors  
Find us on [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://facebook.com/mowattumc)  
301-474-9410

Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor

In person worship services cancelled for now.  
Live streaming on our Facebook page @mowattumc.  
10 a.m. Sunday mornings

### Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi  
Phone: 301-937-3666 [www.pbuuc.org](http://www.pbuuc.org)

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

November 22 10 a.m.  
**"Thanks for the Memories"**

Rev. Rachel Christensen, Minister; with Worship Associate John Barr; and the Chalice Dancers

Rev. Rachel leads worship and says goodbye to the congregation, as she moves on from Paint Branch UU.

ONLINE ONLY, streaming information at <http://pbuuc.org/news/>

### Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm  
Saturday morning services at 10:00am  
All services and activities are currently virtual  
For further information, call (301) 474-4223 [www.mishkantorah.org](http://www.mishkantorah.org)  
Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

“See ye no strangers; rather see all men as friends, for love and unity come hard when ye fix your gaze on otherness ... For each of the creatures is a sign of God, and it was by the grace of the Lord and His power that each did step into the world; therefore they are not strangers, but in the family; not aliens, but friends, and to be treated as such.”

– Abdu’l-Baha

**Greenbelt Bahá’í Community**  
[www.greenbeltbahais.org](http://www.greenbeltbahais.org)





Our condolences to the family of Shawntae Nixon, who died on November 1. She was the granddaughter of Greenbelter Patricia Waldron and daughter of Eleanor Roosevelt graduate, the late LaShawn Nixon.

Share your accomplishments, milestones and news in the Our Neighbors column. Send details of your news items to [editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com).

City Notes

Sustainability/Environmental led 18 Weed Warriors in removing invasive plants from the Buddy Attick Park peninsula and local scouts picking up 91.25 pounds of litter around Indian Creek. Horticulture/Parks inventoried holiday lights and ordered extras.

Planning staff attended a virtual town hall about flooding in the county. Street Maintenance/Special Details installed salt spreaders on vehicles. Refuse/Recycling collected 29.08 tons of refuse and 14.94 tons of recyclables.

Due to state and county Covid-19 tightening, Recreation staff transitioned to more remote hours. The Winter 2021 Activity Guide went live. Free outdoor programs for school children continue.

Arts staff added embroidery instruction to ongoing fall classes. Museum staff helped film a holiday video at the Museum house.

The Animal Shelter houses one kitten and six cats. Park Rangers investigated reported fireworks behind Braden Field.

Therapeutic Recreation facilitated meal delivery for 30 seniors. CARES's Darren Stephenson conducted a session on parenting during stressful times.

KEEP CALM AND WEAR A MASK

**LISTEN to the NEWS REVIEW**  
Visually impaired may listen for free Call Metropolitan Washington Ear 301-681-6636  
No special equipment needed

The Bus

Seniors and Customers with Disabilities RIDE FREE



City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

**GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL- REGULAR MEETING**  
**Monday, November 23, 2020 8:00 p.m.**

**ORGANIZATION**  
Call to Order  
Roll Call  
Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag  
Consent Agenda – Approval of Staff Recommendations (Items on the Consent Agenda [marked by \*] will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)  
Approval of Agenda and Additions

**COMMUNICATIONS**  
**Presentations**  
- Recognition Group - Update from Chesapeake Education, Arts, and Research Society (CHEARS) on Environmental Program  
- Small Business Saturday Proclamation  
- Introduction of City Planner

**Petitions and Requests**  
(Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless Council waives its Standing Rules.)

**Minutes of Council Meetings**  
- Greenbelt Public Safety Petition to City Council

**Administrative Reports**  
**Committee Reports**  
\* Forest Preserve Advisory Board - Protecting the Sunrise Tract from Beltway Expansion - Report # 2020-06

**LEGISLATION**  
- Eviction Freeze Ordinance, 2nd Reading  
- Rent Increase Freeze Ordinance  
1st Reading, Suspension of the Rules  
2nd Reading, Adoption  
- Late Fee Freeze Ordinance  
1st Reading, Suspension of the Rules  
2nd Reading, Adoption

**OTHER BUSINESS**  
- Police Substation Lease with Beltway Plaza  
- 2021 Legislative Program  
- Council Activities  
- Council Reports

**MEETINGS-Scheduling of Future Meetings**  
**COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE VIRTUAL** Cablecast on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996 and [www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv)  
**Resident participation: Information will be posted on Meetings Calendar at [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov)**  
*In advance the hearing impaired are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email [banderson@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:banderson@greenbeltmd.gov)*

**SEEKING LIFEGUARDS AND POOL MANAGERS!**

The Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center is now hiring lifeguards!  
Apply now at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/jobs](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/jobs)

Have a very safe and Happy Thanksgiving!  
Please remember to celebrate responsibly  
From the City of Greenbelt

**GOBBLE WOBBLE**

**VIRTUAL FAMILY FUN RUN & WALK**

Pre-registration is required  
Registration available through December 1st

Fee: \$15/individual  
\$50/Family 4-pack

Visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation) or call 301-397-2200 to register

You decide when to run, walk, or wobble! Make sure to share your photos with us #GreenbeltGobbleWobble2020 and #GreenbeltRecreation or by emailing [aphelan@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:aphelan@greenbeltmd.gov)

All registrants will receive a Gobble Wobble shirt and medal. Pickup details will be shared with registrants once available

**VIRTUAL MEETINGS FOR NOVEMBER 23-27**

Monday, November 23 at 8:00pm, **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING** Virtual meeting will be shown on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 & 996 and streaming on [www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv)

**This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000. For information on public participation for the virtual meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov).**

**HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**  
City Offices will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 26 and 27, for the Thanksgiving Holiday. The GREENBELT CONNECTION will not be operating.

**REFUSE/RECYCLING SCHEDULE**  
**Week of November 23**  
Monday Route – Refuse & Recycling Regular Schedule  
Tuesday Route - Refuse & Recycling Regular Schedule  
Wednesday Route – Refuse & Recycling Regular Schedule  
Thursday Route – Refuse collected on Wednesday – No Recycling Collection  
There will be no appliance/metals, hard plastics, or yard waste collections on Friday, November 27

**VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES**  
Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on:

- Arts Advisory Board
- Employee Relations Board
- Board of Elections
- Forest Preserve Advisory Board
- Public Safety Advisory Committee
- Youth Advisory Committee
- Senior Citizens Advisory Committee

**For more information call 301- 474-8000**

**GREENBELT RECREATION WINTER ACTIVITY GUIDE 2021**

Greenbelt Recreation  
[www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation)  
301-397-2200

**Winter Activity Guide Now Available Online!**  
Registration begins on Monday, November 23 for Greenbelt Residents  
Classes begin the week of January 4, 2021

Check out our Winter 2021 Activity Guide for more details!

Explore our Activity Guide for lots of options for all ages and interests. We offer seasonal special events and varied recreation facilities and classes to provide opportunities for community celebrations, a chance to learn something new or improve your skills in an activity you enjoy, all while socializing and staying active!

Please visit our Virtual Recreation Center online or give us a call for more information.

**GREENBELT FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS JURIED ART AND CRAFT FAIR**  
**ONLINE: [GREENBELTMD.GOV/RECREATION](http://GREENBELTMD.GOV/RECREATION)**  
**BLACK FRIDAY (NOV. 27) - DECEMBER 20**  
**57 LOCAL ARTISANS, AUTHORS AND NON-PROFITS**

Mosaic by Celeste Kelly

**ONLINE WORKSHOP: MAKE YOUR OWN WRAPPING PAPER (for any occasion!)**

Sign up at <https://bit.ly/2UyiaeW> by Sunday, 11/22 to receive a free materials kit and a link to the workshop instruction with Artist in Residence Racquel Keller. Instruction will be provided online on Sunday, 12/6. (After 11/22, the link will be available but kits can no longer be reserved.)

**FREE Parenting Classes**  
December 2 from 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM, VIRTUAL  
Be the Best Parent You Can Be!  
Email: [cares@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:cares@greenbeltmd.gov) to register

- Parenting During Stressful Times
- Setting Rules that Work
- Effective Discipline
- Managing your Child's Emotions

FOR CITY INFORMATION, ACTIVITIES, SERVICES, MEETINGS AND MORE VISIT [WWW.GREENBELTMD.GOV!](http://WWW.GREENBELTMD.GOV!)



# Sidewalk Chalk Art for All Ages

by Melissa Sites



These Peanuts characters are drawn by Jasmine Wilson.

Greenbelt artists Carol “C” Ready and Christine Wilkin put out chalk at the corner of Gardenway and Ridge Road on Halloween day, so that passersby could decorate the sidewalk. Wilkin wanted to “bring together the community, spread joy and do public art.” So with donated supplies from the Hyattsville Arts Alliance, Ready and Wilkin provided chalk along with gloves and hand sanitizer for a socially distanced outdoor activity. Between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., around 30 people came by. Some were students of Wilkin at Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS), either currently or in the recent past; some were parents, others were people walking by.

Wilkin set out a large box of supplies with labels stating “Decorate the sidewalk, have fun.” Wilkin said that while she was parking her car, “Someone saw the box, opened the box, tied their dog to the stop sign and started drawing on the sidewalk.”

Several members of the ERHS National Arts Honor Society took part in the event. Nineteen students are members of the organization, new this fall at the school, which has the goals of giving students peer recognition, leadership growth and visible opportunities to do art. “This was the

first activity that they’ve taken part in,” Wilkin stated.

Ready says her quarantine sidewalk art has been inspired by “things that are in the news and that are on my mind.” Starting in early April, Ready made a portrait of Marvin the Martian saying “Give me my space,” using a six-pack of colored chalk bought at the Greenbelt Co-op. Some of her other favorites have been portraying Dr. Anthony Fauci as a stained-glass window and Divine from the movie Pink Flamingos along with the highway sign reading “safer at home hon.” Ready commented on the idea that bystanders at protest rallies might use a can of soup as a projectile by repeating the phrase “this is soup for my family” in dozens of different languages as “a weird foreign-language phrase book.” “I’ve been drawing on the sidewalk all summer,” Ready said. “Now it’s getting cold and dark. [Sidewalk art] is a way for people to get out, be outside, see some of their friends and classmates. Younger kids could do this instead of trick-or-treating, which was called off or limited. For high school kids there were not likely to be parties. Adults expect the worst sometimes, but this was an opportunity for a kind of community service. People

walking by might get some positive impressions of high school students.”

ERHS student Jasmine Wilson, who suggested that the theme of the sidewalk art should be superheroes, drew Peanuts characters saying Happy Halloween. Wilkin imagined superheroes including Fauci with the vaccine, a teacher, a mailman and a Black Lives Matter protester. Siblings Jaden Dirksen (a 2018 ERHS graduate, currently at Prince George’s Community College) drew a portrait of Eleanor Roosevelt, and Raina Dirksen (an ERHS senior) drew an illustration for Día de los Muertos. Frank Gervasi with granddaughter Evelyn drew a colorful peace sign. Brian Voith drew a Buddha, but labeled it as a Halloween pun. A martini was drawn in tribute to Sean Connery, who recently died.

Wilkin was initially nervous about whether people would take part, but considered the event to be a success, stating, “Students saw their friends and got to check in with each other.” She also was able to meet some of her socially distanced students. “Kids were coming up and saying, ‘Miss Wilkin, I’m in your class!’ and I was meeting them for the first time.”

- Photos by Christine Wilkin



ERHS heroes, drawn by Christine Wilkin

# DEIS Released for BEP Plant Planned for 100-acre BARC Site

by Deanna Dawson

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the proposed Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) facility at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) is now available for public review and comment. Both a 160-page pdf version and a digital representation of the DEIS can be accessed at [nab.usace.army.mil/Home/BEP-Replacement-Project](http://nab.usace.army.mil/Home/BEP-Replacement-Project). Comments may be mailed or emailed through December 21, or made verbally at a public webinar scheduled for 6 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, December 2 (links available on the project website, above). The DEIS, prepared by the U.S Department of the Treasury (Treasury) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers—Baltimore District in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, analyzes the potential environmental and socioeconomic impacts of the proposed project.

## Proposed Project

Treasury proposes to construct and operate a new, up to one million square-foot Currency Production Facility (CPF) on BARC to replace its existing production facility in downtown Washington, D.C. That facility, one of two CPFs operated by Treasury (the other is located in Fort Worth, Texas), was built in 1914, and its condition and design preclude its modernization to produce technologically sophisticated U.S. paper currency.

Site preparation and construction are proposed to start in 2021 or 2022. Treasury would gradually transition personnel and operations to the new CPF during 2025 to 2029. When fully operational, approximately 1,600 employees would work at the CPF in a round-the-clock weekday schedule of operation. All access to the CPF, including during construction, would be from Powder Mill Road.

## The Site

The site, a 104-acre parcel at the north end of Poultry Road, is located about two miles north of the Greenbelt/BARC boundary on Research Road. Currently on the site is a cluster of buildings that were used for poultry research from 1914 to 2012 and have not been used or maintained since then, as well as scattered trees, grassland and some cropland.

Treasury identified and considered a number of potential sites on federal land in the National Capital region, but this site, known as the 200 Area, was the only one that met the selection criteria of at least 100 acres of suitable land within 10 miles of a major interstate and reasonably near an international airport. The Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 authorized the U.S. Department of Agriculture to transfer this site to Treasury for the CPF.

## DEIS Considerations

The DEIS considers only a no action alternative and the preferred alternative (i.e., construction of the CPF on the BARC site), as well as the potential impacts of CPF construction and operation on 13 resource areas: land use; visual resources; air quality; noise; geology; topography and soils; water resources; biological resources; cultural resources; traffic and transportation; utilities; socioeconomic and environmental justice; hazardous and toxic materials and waste; human health and safety and cumulative effects.

Of particular concern to Greenbelt residents will be the further loss of natural areas on BARC, increased traffic, especially trucks, on Powder Mill Road and the noise generated by increased traffic and CPF operation. The DEIS makes some recommendations to mitigate environmental impacts, including removal of the rumble strips on Powder Mill Road to reduce vehicle noise.



Greenbelt resident Vijay Parmeshwaran's chalk drawing celebrates the Indian holiday of Diwali in 2020.



Rumor said that  
"Print was  
dead."  
Not on our  
watch.  
This ad is \$40.

[www.GreenbeltNewsReview.com](http://www.GreenbeltNewsReview.com)



# After Discussion of Ordinances, Council Handles Other Business

by Cathie Meetre

Much of the evening’s activities at the Monday, November 16, Greenbelt City Council meeting, concerned the three ordinances proposed by Mayor Colin Byrd relating to evictions, rents and late fees on rental properties in the city, which will now all reach a second reading on November 23. This topic was covered in an article on page one of the News Review issue of November 12 (available at [greenbeltnewsreview.com/Archives](http://greenbeltnewsreview.com/Archives)). The revised text of the ordinances can be obtained from [greenbeltmd.gov/government/city-council/minutes-and-agendas](http://greenbeltmd.gov/government/city-council/minutes-and-agendas) by clicking on the agenda packet for the November 9 meeting and following links on page three. The agenda packet also contains links to several other documents referred to in this article.

### Grants and Funding

This year, the city anticipates the award of a \$154K Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for improvements of Edmonston Road.

Council approved submission of the applications for the next CDBG funding round, including resurfacing and other improvements to Springhill Drive from Cherrywood Lane to Springhill Lane. An application for \$50K for a Mental Health and Financial Awareness program drew praise from Councilmembers Judith Davis and Emmett Jordan, who both expressed concern for the almost 10 percent of Greenbelt families living below the poverty line. In response, Assistant City Manager David Moran smilingly deferred the kudos for the application to CARES Director Liz Parks, but also warned council that of all the block grant categories, applications for social welfare funding were easily the most competitive because funding is limited.

In response to a question by Jordan about the potential effects of Covid-19 on CDBG funding, Moran explained that the CDBG funding went to almost every congressional district and was supported across the political spectrum; however, there was no telling what the federal budget might look like.

### State Plan

In considering longer-term project funding, council expressed displeasure with the state of Maryland’s draft Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP) for 2021 to 2026 which projects a \$13.4B capital budget (less than its predecessor by \$2.9B due to Covid-19 impacts on revenues). Despite the city’s additional input, several of Greenbelt’s preferred projects are still not included, whereas two major efforts opposed by the city, maglev and the additional travel lanes on I-495 and I-270, remain on the list.

City Planning and Community Development Director Terri Hruby is drafting a letter with the city’s comments. Davis wanted the letter to note that the city continues to support the Purple Line light-rail system being funded and (with emphasis) finished and also supports the Phase 1 and Phase 2 plans for Route 1. Jordan wanted to add that the Streetscape Project proposed for Route 193 (not included in the

draft plan) is a gateway not just for Greenbelt, but for College Park and Berwyn Heights. Jordan also felt that the Streetscape Project could be given additional credibility by adding references to pedestrian and traffic safety and the zero-fatality approach.

### New Treasurer

City Manager Nicole Ard introduced City Treasurer Bertha Gaymon. A graduate of the University of Maryland with a BA in business and an MBA from the University of Phoenix, Gaymon brings chief financial officer skills highly relevant to city government. Ard noted that Gaymon has jumped right in to working with city staff and the retiring treasurer.

### Mask Makers

Earlier in the meeting, council congratulated the Greenbelt Mask Makers on their award from The Arc Montgomery County as Community Partner of the Year, regretting that nobody was on hand to comment. In fact, the audience included Kimberley Njowusi from The Arc and John Campanile, a mask distributor for the group since its inception, but neither spoke.

### Baseball

In continuing reviews of organizations receiving support from the city (Recognition Groups), it was baseball’s turn at bat. Babe Ruth’s Ian Gleason, responding to questions from Davis, said that although their recruitment materials invite girls to join, none has so far signed up. But, as he explained, apart from a few practices in the fall, there have been no games this year and it is not yet clear what will happen next spring. Gleason said that though parents are “a mix of ready-to-go and cautious,” he was confident that they would be able to field one team per age group for next

See **COUNCIL**, page 11

## National Education Week

# Pandemic Demands New Norms, Challenges Students, Teachers

by Julia Arbutus

As teachers at Greenbelt Elementary School settle into the new normal of teaching, they are trying to foster the same sense of community that students would find in an in-person classroom, while also trying to make sure opportunities for students do not disappear just because learning is remote.

Melinda Brady, the chair of Greenbelt’s Advisory Committee on Education, is working as a student teacher in fifth grade this semester teaching math and science as she works toward her teaching certificate. As a former substitute teacher, Brady already knew some of her students before the year began.

The shift to remote teaching meant utilizing a whole new set of technologies to help students learn. Brady has been trying out new ways of assessing student comprehension and learning and credits her own time as a virtual student with giving her the tools to be successful.

“I was a virtual student before I was a virtual teacher, so that was really helpful,” Brady said.

While teachers had more time to prepare for the fall semester than they did for the transition to remote learning in the spring, there are still some issues that have not been resolved, like internet and computer access. Though Greenbelt Elementary School made sure students had resources before the term began, some households have multiple students, which can complicate a student’s internet access.

“Everybody’s struggling with the internet right now,” Brady said. “Some students are just voices from a box.”

Still, Brady remarked, “Teachers are working harder than ever to try new things in the class-



Greenbelt Elementary School

room and to make sure students feel the same sense of community they felt in the in-person classroom.

The thing I’ve been impressed with is how hard the teachers are working. There’s an enormous amount of effort going on behind the scenes. I’m hoping people recognize that.”

Dominique Werthing, a fourth-grade teacher and the science department chair for Greenbelt Elementary School, echoes Brady’s sentiment and said, “Teachers are constantly evaluating how to change their teaching styles to meet students where they are. Every day we’re learning how to make things better. This is a collaborative effort between administrators, teachers, students, parents and the community.”

Werthing led Greenbelt Elementary School in applying for an outdoor classroom through the Treating and Teaching program, which is sponsored by the Anacostia Watershed Society. The program provides teachers the

tools to “extend student learning” beyond the classroom by increasing student environmental literacy in stormwater management. “Being a science nerd, I wanted to see if we could provide this opportunity to our students,” said Werthing. Greenbelt Elementary School has some outdoor learning spaces, like the courtyard where students have grown pea plants to understand the plant life cycle and the nature trail behind the school, which the school hopes to improve upon if the application is approved.

Werthing hopes students will be able to use the outdoor classroom to understand that they have a role to play in watershed conservation and take what they have been learning inside the classroom out to their parents and the larger community. Werthing added, “Even though it’s not really in our curriculum, it’s all around us.”

*Julia Arbutus is a University of Maryland graduate student in journalism.*



## MAKE THANKSGIVING STRESS FREE

In Historic Roosevelt Center  
[www.greenbelt.coop](http://www.greenbelt.coop)

### Plant-Based Thanksgiving



- **Turkeys: Fresh, Frozen, & Organic**
- **Pre-Cooked Turkey & Ham Meal Kits - Just Heat and Serve**
- **A Deli Hot Bar Thanksgiving Mon. - Wed. Thanksgiving Day Hours: 7 am - 2 pm Pharmacy will be Closed.**



TRAIL continued from page 1

homes. Who wants strangers in your backyard? Council was concerned that if the city did not establish a defined trail soon, it might never happen.

Although White was a resident of one of those lakeview homes, he pushed city staff to build the path. The problem was, there was no money budgeted to do it. A second problem was that where Gaschick stood to take the photo there was only a narrow footpath on the steep side of a hill, suitable mostly for nimble kids and billy goats. A wide path there required building it above the steep slope where land was more level. However, part of that land was privately owned by two families. One was the Whites, the other the Davises. Fortunately, they were both amenable to granting the city revocable easements for the land needed. In return, they asked the city to install a wood rail fence along the path behind their homes. That was doable and was done. Many years later the city purchased the land granted by easements, so the trail is now permanently sited.

The next hurdle was constructing the path. There already existed government-built paths from the bay end of the lake to the dam, across the dam and along the north side. They needed to complete the circle. The city didn't have a budget, but it did have manpower and some equipment. Buddy and I walked the lakeshore, figuring out where a pathway could be built that could accommodate maintenance vehicles without destroying significant trees. Surprisingly, only a very few mature trees had to be taken down, the rest being scrub growth.

Buddy grew up in a home that became part of the city. He worked as a security guard during the construction of Greenbelt. Next, he became a mounted city police officer, patrolling the streets and woodlands. Buddy knew every nook and cranny of Greenbelt. He was also gregarious and knew most people who lived and worked here. He learned by watching and doing.

The small Public Works crew then consisted mostly of men raised on farms, some locally and many from Appalachia. Living during a depression, these men knew how to get jobs done that needed doing without expensive equipment or contractors, relying on their own brains and brawn. The city owned a bulldozer, operated by Charlie Dodson and used at the then city landfill. Charlie and the crew were able to clear the land and grade the new trail, a part of which is seen in the photo.

But there were other problems at either end. First, a path had to be built from Braden Field to the east end of the lake to bring in equipment. That meant fording a small stream. Steppingstones were put in place for pedestrian use. Also, at the lake's end the path had to cross two streams to get from one side to the other. The one coming from Boxwood Village and Woodland Hills could be handled by laying large concrete pipes for short distances, which was done as part of the peninsula construction. The second much-larger stream from Braden Field collected water from much of the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) housing cooperative. It needed to be bridged with a structure big and strong enough to support



Nature scene in Greenbelt from 2018

PHOTO BY CYNTHIA CUMMINGS



Bench at the South Bay of the Lake in 2017

PHOTO BY ERIN JOSEPHITIS



This bridge connects Braden Field to the Lake path, seen here last winter.

PHOTO BY ALDEN JURLING

maintenance vehicles.

Buddy's crew built concrete piers on either side and set steel beams across. He still needed a strong surface. Springhill Lake (now Franklin Park) apartments were then under construction. Each apartment had a balcony. The balcony floors were prefabricated rectangles of reinforced concrete. Some of these floors had visual imperfections making them undesirable for building use but still structurally sound. Buddy managed to get some of them donated for the bridge flooring. The crew installed guard rails.

At the bay end, although a pathway once existed, the installation of a sanitary sewer line several feet above ground level where the pathway had been was another obstacle. Fortunately, the Lakecrest development had excess dirt from its grading and managed to cover the pipe with it. That still left a gap for a small stream entering the lake and more concrete pipe had to be laid. The dirt covering the sewer pipe had to be compacted and graded and gravel laid for the path.

When all of this was accomplished, Greenbelt residents were able to take a pleasant 1.1-mile walk around the lake. Then Public Works built paths from the ends of the three courts in the Lakecrest subdivision, another connecting path from Lakeside Drive at the new bridge and another from Lakecrest Drive in Charlestowne Village, providing added public access to the lake trail.

Trickiest of all was building an asphalt path from Ridge Road to Maplewood Court for use by GHI residents for lake access. Because of the steep slope, gravel would not work; it would wash down the hill. The asphalt had to be rolled and compacted. The roller machine was not powerful enough to climb the steep grade. So it rolled its way down the hill, was loaded onto a truck trailer and hauled back to Ridge Road to make another run. It was not the best paving job but good enough.

Could this no-budget construction be done today? I don't think so. First, you would need to hire planners, engineers and attorneys to get the necessary approvals

for compliance with regulations subsequently adopted. You would probably need to own the right-of-way, requiring either a cash purchase or a legal eminent domain proceeding. I am not aware

Send Us Your High Resolution Photos!

The News Review encourages readers to send in photos of Greenbelt landmarks, activities and the changing seasons. Photos should be at least 300 dpi, and must include the name of the photographer and a caption. The caption must name any identifiable people in the photo, as well as explain the picture.

If you are sending photos from your phone, please choose the option to send "actual size", or upload the photos to your computer first and then email the photos at full size. Send photos to [editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com).

of any leftover balcony floors in Greenbelt, so the bridge would have to be designed and built from scratch; also, modern regulations would probably require that.

On the plus side, the city might now be able to obtain state or federal grant monies to help pay the cost. Nearly 60 years ago, grant funds were nonexistent.

*James Giese was the new Greenbelt city manager in 1963.*

Greenbelt Federal Credit Union

Annual Membership Meeting

Date: December 22, 2020

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Where: via Zoom Meeting

Please visit our website for more information on how to join the meeting.

[www.greenbeltfcu.com](http://www.greenbeltfcu.com)



# Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, [www.greenbeltmd.gov/police](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police)  
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

**Assault**  
November 6, 2:03 p.m., 7500 block Greenbelt Road. A man driving a gold four-door vehicle pulled up next to a woman driving in another lane, cursed at her, pointed a handgun at her and then fled onto the southbound Baltimore-Washington Parkway.

November 10, 6:36 p.m., 7701 Greenbelt Road. Witnesses said two people were in the parking lot talking when two teens approached them and punched one several times, which knocked him to the ground. One teen picked up the cell phone that belonged to the person on the ground and both of them fled. The injured person was transported to a local hospital for treatment.

**Theft**  
November 5, 12:56 p.m., 7511 Greenbelt Road. A wallet was taken from an unattended purse at Chevy’s Restaurant on November 3.

November 6, 9:30 a.m., 6000 block Greenbelt Road. A blanket was taken from Laundro-Land Laundromat.

November 6, 6:03 p.m., 402 Ridge Road. A beige Fuji Advance sports bike was stolen from a bike locker behind an apartment building.

November 6, 6:13 p.m., 8114 Greenbelt Station Parkway. A package was taken from the front stoop of a residence.

November 11, 3 p.m., 5914 Cherrywood Terrace. Merchandise was taken from a package left on the front stoop of a residence. A doorbell video showed the person suspected of taking it is an older woman.

**Fraud**  
November 9, 9:27 p.m., 5833 Cherrywood Terrace. A man who claimed to be with the Social Security Administration called a woman and told her she had committed crimes in the country of Colombia and needed to pay a fine via gift card purchases. After purchasing them and giving him the card information, she realized that she had been scammed.

November 10, 9:33 p.m., 7600 block Mandan Road. A woman reported that on October 12 she agreed to buy clothing advertised on a social media app and paid for it using cash. She never received the merchandise.

**Burglary**  
November 7, 7:56 a.m., 6212 Breezewood Court. A lock assembly on the front door of a residence was tampered with and damaged. Entry was not obtained.

November 9, 5:56 p.m., 5818 Cherrywood Lane. A woman came home and found that her bedroom window had been broken and money was missing from a nightstand.

**Vandalism**  
November 10, 8:08 p.m., 227 Lakeside Drive. The sliding glass door of a residence was broken.

**Vehicle Crime**  
A 2008 Honda Accord that had been stolen on November 6 from 6218 Breezewood Drive was recovered November 10 by D.C. Metropolitan police in the 1400 block Morris Road, S.E. It had been stolen when left unattended with the motor running. A man wearing dark clothing was seen getting into it and driving away.

Rear Maryland tag 3EA9968 was taken from 9168 Springhill Lane.

Fourteen air bags were stolen November 5 from cars parked on Springhill Drive, Edmonston Road, Edmonston Terrace and Cherrywood Terrace.

Other thefts occurred after windows were broken to gain access. In 7800 block Mandan Road a wristwatch was taken and on Mandan Road near Hanover Parkway loose change was taken.

Also in the 7800 block Mandan Road, entry was made after a door lock had been tampered with and damaged. Taken were a gym bag containing an iPad, a pair of earbuds and clothing.

In the 9100 block Edmonston Court a rear windshield was broken and two tires slashed.

## Don’t Be a Victim Of Bicycle Theft

With the uptick of bicycle thefts in Greenbelt, including within GHI, here are some prevention tips from the Washington Area Bicyclists Association ([waba.org](http://waba.org)):

Register the bicycle and serial number with the National Bicycle Registry or Bike Index. Without a paper trail, the police can’t do much to help recover a stolen bicycle should it be located. Take a few pictures and keep them in a safe place. (Note: The Greenbelt Police Department offers bicycle registration. Call ahead to make an appointment.)

Purchase a U-lock or a heavy-duty chain lock. Cable locks are easily cut. Although any lock can be defeated by a determined thief with the right tools and time, a good U-lock prevents substantial damage to the bike.

Lock the bike properly. Use the U-lock to lock up the rear wheel and frame to a secure bicycle rack, parking meter or sign post – an implanted metal object. Don’t use a tree because any tree a U-lock will fit around may be easily cut down.

If the bicycle is stolen, notify the police. Send an email with a picture, description and serial number to friends. Post on Facebook and tweet to #bikeDC.

And perhaps most important, never leave a bike unattended at any time without locking it. In seconds, an unlocked bike could be in the hands of an opportunistic bicycle thief.

Contributed by John Campanile

# THEATRE continued from page 1

The theater is now run by Friends of Greenbelt Theatre. “The core mission of the OGT is to be a community resource and to serve our friends and neighbors with new, different, exciting events that you might not be able to experience at the AMC or Regal,” said Executive Director Caitlin McGrath.

On Friday, March 13, the theater announced its closure due to Covid-19 and has not yet reopened. “We want to make sure that if we are allowed to reopen that we think that it is safe to do so and so we will be looking at that very closely and have been all along,” said McGrath.

“In the beginning we were all working from home and trying to keep programming as normal as possible,” McGrath continued. “It was costing more in staff time to get the events up and running than we were actually seeing in ticket sales or donations to cover the cost. With our Covid-19 closure, we have had to fully or partially furlough most of

our staff, so we are focused on essential tasks only,” said Kelly McLaughlin, director of marketing and development.

OGT has been a staple of the community since its foundation and former moviegoers keep the memories they’ve made at the theater close to heart.

“Sundays, I would go to see cartoons, I can’t remember how much, I think it was 50 cents, fun times,” said Greenbelt resident Ann Sowers about her memories at the theater in 1972, when she was 5 or 6.

“I watched the Beatles movie Help! seven times there when I was in the 7th or 8th grade,” said Sandy Lee Roberts, another Greenbelter.

The OGT has been offering alternatives for the community to still be able to enjoy movies. “We partnered with the Recreation department to have a movie series take place on the baseball field behind the Youth Center and we wound up doing three months

of that,” said McGrath about the Moonlit Movies that were shown weekly during the summer and early fall. “That was a great way for folks to be able to still enjoy seeing a movie with their friends in a safe, socially distanced way,” she added.

Currently, members have the opportunity to rent out the theater with their pod of friends and enjoy a socially distanced showing of a movie of their choice.

The City of Greenbelt will be working with OGT to determine when it will be able to open again. So far there is no update on when that might occur, and the staff is waiting for decisions by the county on the next phase of openings.

Although future operations of the OGT are currently unknown, McGrath believes that the theater is in a good position when things do go back to normal. “People are saying movie-going is never going to be the same again . . . I don’t think that is the case.”

# LIBRARY continued from page 1

with staff using their off-site days to prepare recorded programs.

Labra revealed highlights of the system’s new strategic plan for 2021 to 2024. Programming will be a combination of virtual and on-site. One can expect diversity programs, such as one hosted by the Prince George’s County Heritage Project, which will celebrate the multiplicity of cultures in the county. Teens and young adults are to be offered programs like a Dream Lab and a kick-start series, which will assist in career advice and strategies. The arts will be a central focus, with the aim of making local branch libraries into community hubs for visual and performing arts. Labra would like to see the Greenbelt Library offer a gallery for local artists. Councilmember Judith Davis urged Labra to make use of Greenbelt’s art community, like Arts Supervisor Nicole DeWald, to aid in this endeavor.

Council was keen on the importance of maintaining the Library’s Tugwell Room, which houses documents and resources concerning the city’s entire history. Closed now due to the pandemic, Labra reported that before this, the system was hoping to hire an archivist to oversee it. Council hoped that the Library would continue to honor the existing MOU with the city, creating a partnership that would best preserve the contents. The Greenbelt Museum was suggested by council as a key resource.

Resident Konrad Herling brought up the “digital divide” that exists, mostly with seniors, concerning the frequent lack of effective understanding of computer and internet use. Labra said that the Library houses around 40 computers and that in the past the

system has offered classes on this subject, and expects to continue that in later reopening phases.

Jordan said that this was “a dynamic time for libraries,” citing the increase in digital collections of books and periodicals. Labra said that there was “a fine line,” based on usage, in determining when to transfer materials to the digital format, saying that there was still a “robust collection” of physical copies.



PHOTO BY CHRISTIAN MENEDEZ

GREENBELT

FARMERS MARKET

The Last Regular Farmers Market is Sunday, November 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Holiday Market, Sunday, December 6

Parking Lot at Southway and Centerway

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Thanksgiving holiday schedules for our printer mean the News Review must submit the camera-ready copy to them a day early.

As a result, all published deadlines for copy, photos and ads are ONE DAY earlier than they usually are. The times remain the same.

Out of consideration for our staff, it is preferable that materials come in even earlier than that whenever possible. All efforts will be much appreciated.

The newspaper may be delivered to doorsteps either Thursday or Friday, depending on carrier schedules and printer delivery times.

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BOXED: \$10 column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$15). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads.

NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.

DROP ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the Community Center (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building).

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Sports

Gobble Wobble Fun Run Goes Virtual

by Rayonna Burton-Jernigan

Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, many events have been cancelled or converted to virtual formats in order to ensure the safety of everyone involved. Much like different cities across the nation, Greenbelt is planning to do the same for its residents this year with the Gobble Wobble Run.

The Gobble Wobble, Greenbelt's yearly Thanksgiving Morning run, will be an almost virtual event this year so Greenbelt doesn't have to cancel the run, yet will still remain in compliance with pandemic guidelines for large gatherings.

"This marks the 15th year of the Gobble Wobble and we couldn't imagine skipping the event, which has become ingrained into the Thanksgiving morning ritual for many in our community," said Andrew Phelan, the recreation coordinator for the Gobble Wobble.

With a commitment to keep the community active, the city encourages participants to make their own Gobble Wobble run before, on, or after Thanksgiving. All participants will receive a Gobble Wobble shirt, complete with a masked turkey graphic, and medal. To maintain the strong community aspect of the traditional event, participants are asked to wear their Gobble Wobble shirts and share their run, walk or



With the turkey in front, in 2019, runners set out for the 5K run, two times around the Lake.

wobble on social media using #GreenbeltGobbleWobble2020 and #Greenbelt Recreation.

Greenbelt residents and twins, Ian and Patrick Gleason, both of whom are avid runners and participants in the event for the last few years, are sad that the event can't be held as it always has been, yet understand the importance of the event not being in person.

"I was definitely planning on

participating. Last year, I actually came in third. So, I was trying to see if I could do even better this year. I was excited to see how that went," said Ian.

Like Ian and Patrick, Aileen Kroll, a Greenbelt resident and avid runner, backpacker, biker and all-around outdoorsy person, looked forward to and had hoped to run in many of the races in this region that had to be postponed or set virtually.

"Because even being outside, I don't want to take the risk of being around people. And so, my runs are solitary, and I run in the woods, because I don't want to run into people. So, the very things that bring joy are the very things that I'm avoiding in order to keep me and everyone else alive and well," said Kroll on the

importance of keeping safe while running during the pandemic.

For residents who wish to participate in the Gobble Wobble, email Andrew Phelan at [aphelan@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:aphelan@greenbeltmd.gov).

*Rayonna Burton-Jernigan is a University of Maryland graduate student in journalism reporting for the News Review.*



COUNCIL continued from page 7

season (in 2019 there were two) but added that safety was the overriding concern.

Christine Bailey, speaking for Little League, was counting on 14 teams for 2021, and anticipated some girl players. In reference to past problems with concessions, a major source of league income, Bailey reassured council that the issues were being resolved. Davis asked about the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board's concerns on the league's

financial transparency, to which Patrick Keaton, the new treasurer, responded that he was in the process of ensuring that financial control would be in place to offer better insight into league finances.

In approving the consent agenda, council extended the Greenbelt Archive Project's lease on its office in the Community Center. Work on the News Review's digital archive has been delayed by Covid-19 staffing complications.

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Greenbelt Real Estate

Brick Townhome with Addition 2 BR, 1 1/2 BA GHI home with family room addition. Large 11' x 17' MBR. New appliances including dishwasher. Nice! Addition With Full Bath Downstairs 2 BR GHI townhome with large family room/bedroom on main level. Completely remodeled - opened kitchen.

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Estate Sale GHI 2 Bedroom townhome with hardwood floors, opened kitchen & breakfast bar. Large fenced backyard opens onto protected woodlands.

Brick Townhome with Addition Full bath on main level. Remodeled kitchen & bath. Central A/C, refinished hardwood flrs., shaded & fenced backyard.

Large floorplan w/addition Half bath on main level. Masonry townhome w/ fenced backyard & brick patio. Zoned HVAC system, 11' x 17' master br.

Cape Cod SFH 3br 2 1/2ba home with rem. Kitchen, above-ground pool & wrap-around deck. Finished basement with family room and office space.

Townhome with 2 additions 2 bedroom GHI home on fenced corner lot. Large fenced backyard, extra storage in front. Central HVAC.

4 Bedroom 3 Level Townhome Master bedroom & full bath on main level. Opened remodeled kitchen, fireplace in lr. Backs to protected woodlands.

Townhome with addition 2 br townhome w/ front laundry/office addition. Opened kitchen, full bath, pantry. Fenced backyard with large deck.

Charlestowne Village Single-level 1-br condo in Greenbelt - no stairs! Parquet flooring throughout. Remodeled kit. With S/S appliances. \$149,900

Addition - Backs to Woodlands Completely remodeled throughout; half bath on main level. Central A/C system. Fenced yard, shed & raised deck.

Brick Townhome 2 Bedroom GHI townhome remodeled throughout. Modern kitchen with s/s dishwasher. Hardwood both levels. \$169,900

Upper Level One Bedroom GHI home with full-sized washer and dryer in separate laundry room. Refinished hardwood flooring throughout. Nice!

2 BR Townhome Remodeled GHI home w/ new carpet fresh paint & ceramic bath. Priced to sell at \$124,900

Your Greenbelt Specialists  
In Roosevelt Center



# Rare Visit by Trumpeter Swan On a Misty Morn at the Lake

by Graeme Simpson

On Tuesday, November 10, as the mist clears on Greenbelt Lake, my routine photography nature walk begins as my eyes turn skyward to see the approach of a male trumpeter swan. With long white wings spread, it makes a water landing at the dam end. A short window of opportunity allows a couple of photos of this beautiful bird.

This is the first sighting of a trumpeter swan that I am aware of at the Lake in some years. A known pair of trumpeters inhabits Merganser Pond on the Patuxent Research Refuge. I believe that some trumpeter swans have been tagged showing their flights from Canada to Maryland.

Because of the presence of a fisherman and myself, the swan became a little skittish and kept its distance in middle lake position. It stayed for a short while and then decided to continue its journey and made an arduous takeoff, as they need a good 100 feet of water runway.

Trumpeter swans are the largest of native waterfowl; fully grown males have a six-foot wingspan and they often weigh 25 pounds. Trumpeters have a life span of 10 to 20 years in the wild. They often mate for life and some males that lose their partner do not mate again.

They breed on wetlands in remote Alaska, Canada and the northwestern United States and spend the winter on ice-free coastal and inland waters. Efforts are underway to reintroduce trumpeter swans in states or Canadian provinces where they used to nest.

As a professional wildlife photographer, I once ventured to Chugach State Park, Alaska. I was fortunate to photograph nesting trumpeter swans. The eggs are turned over by a nudging beak daily. The male and female take turns sitting on the clutch of eggs that incubate for 35 to 40 days.

These native waterfowl were decimated in earlier times for their marketable feathers to adorn hats. Swan skins were used to make powder puffs, and their long flight feathers were used for writing quills. Conservation measures in recent years have helped repopulate the species.

I hope more migrate to the Greenbelt area. I was so excited to see a trumpeter swan at Greenbelt Lake.



A Trumpeter Swan makes a rare visit to the Lake.

- Photos by Graeme Simpson



The soft light, low on the horizon, picks out the colors of fall and reflects them in a calm Greenbelt Lake.

# Delegate Julian Ivey Drafts Bill To Ban Maglev Construction

by Donna Hoffmeister

Delegate Julian Ivey, whose Maryland District 47A covers areas south of Greenbelt including Landover, has had emergency legislation drafted to ban construction of the maglev train system. The Office of Legislative Services has given the bill a temporary identification number: 11r0810. The legislation would be inserted into the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 25, which are laws that only apply to Prince George’s County. In fact, Ivey has submitted the bill on behalf of the Prince George’s County delegation.

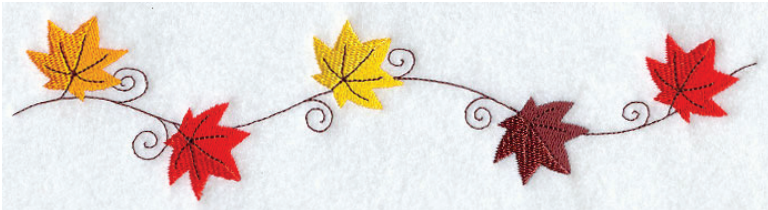
The Maryland General Assembly would normally convene on January 20, 2021. How the pandemic impacts that schedule is still unknown.

The bill seeks to add wording to Maryland Code Section 25-214 relating to land use. It would prohibit the construction of the system within two miles of protected property within Prince George’s County. It defines protected property as residences, the Bladensburg Waterfront Park, the Patuxent River Park, property owned by the federal government, a national park or a forest preserve. When an emergency bill is passed by three-fifths of the total number of members of each house, it becomes law immediately upon approval by the governor.

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) began to devote funding for the development and evaluation of a maglev system in 2001. But in 2003 the General Assembly prohibited spending any state funds on it. In 2016 the Federal Railroad Administration awarded MDOT \$27.8 million to begin an environmental impact study.

No state legislation to stop the system drafted since then has been successful. House Bill 232 of 2018 would have prohibited the transfer of assets to support the system without approval of the Prince George’s County Council. In 2019 state Senators Paul Pinsky and Douglas Peters introduced Senate Bill 200, cross filed with House Bill 1296, which would have prohibited the use of public funding from the state to support maglev construction. In 2020, Delegate Nicole Williams introduced House Bill 1238, which would have required the approval by all county councils impacted by the proposed system (Baltimore City, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Howard, Montgomery and Prince George’s Counties) for construction to proceed.

Getting the attention and support of state legislators outside Prince George’s County appears to be the biggest challenge for those who oppose construction of this high-speed train. Ivey is right that the system would impact so-called “protected property,” including Greenbelt Park, the Greenbelt Forest Preserve and federal land north of Greenbelt as well as residences in Greenbelt and other communities along the proposed route alignments. Ivey’s proposed legislation will be discussed, along with other pending legislation, at a public hearing on Thursday, November 19 at 7:00 p.m. Prince George’s County House Delegation Public Hearing. To join by Zoom, click <https://zoom.us/j/95667033739?pwd=SUxuN2g2VWR3SWljSUU3cDIjdExlUT09>. The meeting will also be streamed live on Facebook @ House Delegation.



Branches span the stream from Braden Field that leads to the forebay and then into the Lake.